

MEETING: 27/11/2014

Ref: 12424

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Improving Londoners' Mental Health

Working With Men

Adv: David Farnsworth

Base: Southwark

Benefit: Tri-borough W London

Amount requested: £145,652

Amount recommended: £145,700

The Charity

Working With Men (WWM) is a specialist charity aiming to significantly reduce the number of boys and men, particularly those who are socially or economically disadvantaged or excluded, who are unable to achieve their full potential to become productive and active members of society. It is an award-winning national charity, with most of its project work being based in London.

The Application

This application is to fund a full time WWM caseworker who will work with disadvantaged boys/young men from the London Tri-borough grouping to reduce the acute development of mental illness and suicide.

The Recommendation

WWM is a focused, well-run, organisation that anchors its work in research and evidence of need. It has been recognised for its work with disadvantaged men both by winning the 2014 National Diversity Award for gender work, and by being invited to run the secretariat of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Fatherhood (which it now does). This funding will enable the organisation to assist more men in reducing their risk of acute mental illness or suicide.

£145,700 over three years (£47,800; £48,200; £49,700) to fund a f/t Caseworker, with related costs, to assist disadvantaged young men in Westminster, Hammersmith and Fulham, and Kensington and Chelsea in reducing their risk of acute mental illness or suicide.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
22/01/2009	£145,000 over three years (£46,000; £49,000; £50,000) for the salary of a full-time Conflict Resolution Development Worker and running costs of a programme for boys and young men.

Background and detail of proposal

CALM reported that men form 77% of suicides, 73% of adults who 'go missing', are three times more likely to become alcohol dependent. Further, suicide is the single biggest killer of men aged under 35. It is within this context that WWM operates.

The caseworker will take the organisational specialism of gender based intervention and combine this with a particular mental health focus. Building on WWM's established Tri-Borough contacts, the caseworker will work with agencies and health professionals to ensure young men find them accessible and relevant. S/he will advocate and support their beneficiaries to access acute mental health support, deliver direct support themselves where appropriate, and facilitate a peer support

forum. Ten young men will also be supported by the caseworker to take on community educator/engagement roles promoting positive sympathetic approaches and attitudes within the community.

Financial Information

As at 6th November 2014, all income of £689,548 for 2014/15 had been confirmed. The lower level of operations in the current year relates to some projects ending part-way through 2014-2015. One such project in Westminster will restart in January 2015 after a gap, so only 3 months of expenditure is reflected in this year's budget. The organisation has confirmed that the deficit of £101,568 on restricted funds is due to spending income received in prior years.

At 31st March 2015 free unrestricted funds are predicted to be £77,483 which is equivalent to 1.2 months' worth of expenditure, against a policy to hold 6 months' worth. In order to balance delivery of the strategy and the associated investment needed, the charity aims to build reserves slowly as part of a longer term strategic plan, and the charity hopes to achieve 3 months' worth of running costs within 5 years.

The cost of generating funds is low as WWM has no fundraising staff, grant applications and tenders are completed by the senior management team assisted by administrative and finance staff. Therefore the figures are an allocation based on estimated staff time spent on fundraising activities.

Year end at 31 March	2013/14 Audited Accounts	2014/15 Current Year Forecast
Income and Expenditure	£	£
Income	866,928	689,548
Expenditure	812,525	780,093
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	22,002	11,023
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	32,401	(101,568)
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	54,403	(90,545)
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	6.3%	(13.5%)
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	5,196 (0.6%)	6,755 (0.9%)
Free unrestricted reserves		
Unrestricted free reserves held at Year End	66,460	77,483
How many months' worth of expenditure	1.0	1.2
Reserves Policy target	406,262	379,745
How many months' worth of expenditure	6.0	6.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	(339,802)	(302,262)